

rectly towards Porto Rico. That same evening, at about 8 o'clock, when we were 375 miles north of Porto Rico, a Blackpoll Warbler, (*Dendroica striata*), came on board. It was captured, and I placed band number 34968 on its leg and released it.

The third and fourth days out I did not observe any birds, though an officer reported seeing a large seabird on the 25th.

The fifth day, October 26, a Myrtle Warbler, (*Dendroica coronata*), flew on board early in the morning, but soon flew off to the south. In the afternoon, when we were off the Virginia Coast, but of course far out of sight of it, two brown-plumaged Purple Finches, (*Carpodacus p. purpureus*), appeared on board and stayed there most of the afternoon. This same afternoon we came upon a flock of about thirty Loons, (*Gavia immer*), in winter plumage. They kept flying ahead of the boat, then alighting in the water, and flying up again when the boat got near them. Sometimes they would wait too long and almost get hit by the boat, and one was actually shoved aside by the prow of the boat, as it could not use its wings quickly enough to take flight after it realized that the boat was overtaking it. Late in the afternoon a Slate-colored Junco, (*Junco h. hyemalis*), came on board. Once I observed it fly out back of the ship, catch a large moth in midair, and overtake the ship before eating it.

The next morning, October 27, as we were entering the lower part of New York Bay, Herring Gulls were noted for the first time on the trip, and a Tree Sparrow and a junco flew on board.

LABORATORY OF ORNITHOLOGY, CORNELL UNIVERSITY,
ITHACA, N. Y.

BIRDS OF FULTON COUNTY, KENTUCKY

BY DR. L. OTLEY PINDAR

This paper has been prepared as a revision, correction and supplement of an earlier and hastily written paper entitled "List of Birds of Fulton County, Kentucky" and published in the *Auk* for October, 1889. This earlier list was based upon observations made between 1884 and 1889. During March and April, and part of May, 1890, and from March 1, 1892 to November 1, 1893, many additional observations were made in the same territory, some additional species and some changes being noted.

Fulton County is in the southwestern corner of Kentucky, having the Mississippi River for its western boundary. It presents a well diversified surface, from the lowlands along the river to the higher

ground farther back and immediately above Hickman. Rather high hills rise almost directly from the river edge. The whole county is well wooded with ash, beech, black and sweet gum, butternut, cottonwood, cypress, elm, hackberry, locust, poplar (tulip), walnut, pecan, Kentucky coffee tree, several varieties of oak and hickory, persimmon, and sassafras.

I was familiar with every part of the county, but most of my ornithological observations were made at Hickman, along the bank of the Mississippi River, and near the center of the county, measuring from east to west. A few other localities mentioned may be explained as follows: Fulton is in the southeastern corner of the county; Island No. 6 is in the Mississippi directly opposite Hickman; Island No. 8 is ten miles farther down the river. Reelfoot Lake is mainly in Tennessee, but a small part of it is in Fulton County, and I include in the present list all species which I have found on the lake. "The Scatters" is an extension of Reelfoot Lake which is, except during high water, an expanse of marsh and swamp land. Unless otherwise stated, the quotations in the following list are taken from my paper published in 1889, above mentioned.

[The following list contains 273 named forms.—Ed.]

Holboell's Grebe—*Colymbus holboelli*. A rare and irregular migrant.

Pied-billed Grebe—*Podilymbus podiceps*. A common migrant and a fairly common winter habitant. A few remain through the summer.

Loon—*Gavia immer*. A rather rare migrant, and rare and irregular winter visitant. The capture of one was reported at Fulton on May 18, 1887; and that of another at Union City, Tennessee, twelve miles from Hickman, on the same day. This was a day or two after a severe storm.

Herring Gull—*Larus argentatus*. Common during the migration periods. Frequently seen at any time during the winter, though not in large numbers.

Ring-billed Gull—*Larus delawarensis*. A rare migrant and a very rare and irregular winter visitant.

Laughing Gull—*Larus atricilla*. There is one record, January 8, 1887. This was a strange time for it to appear, but the identification was positive.

Franklin's Gull—*Larus franklini*. A rare migrant and occasional winter visitant.

Bonaparte's Gull—*Larus philadelphia*. Its status is similar to that of *franklini*, possibly rather more common.

American Gull-billed Tern—*Gelochelidon nilotica aranea*. A rare summer habitant.

Coues' Caspian Tern—*Sterna caspia imperator*. A rare migrant.

Forster's Tern—*Sterna forsteri*. A common summer habitant.

Common Tern—*Sterna hirundo*. A rare summer habitant.

Least Tern—*Sterna antillarum*. A very rare summer habitant.

Black Tern—*Chlidonias nigra surinamensis*. A common migrant.

Water Turkey—*Anhinga anhinga*. Abundant in the spring and fall, common in the summer, and rare through the winter.

Double-crested Cormorant—*Phalacrocorax auritus auritus*. A common migrant, a fairly common summer habitant, and rare in winter.

Florida Cormorant—*Phalacrocorax auritus floridanns*. A rare summer visitant. It probably breeds at Reelfoot Lake, and possibly at other suitable localities.

White Pelican—*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*. It is not rare during the migrating season, and is occasionally noted during the winter. A few are said to winter regularly at a small lake in Missouri just across the river from Hickman. On May 10, 1887, one was captured on the Mississippi River near Hickman, and brought to me. I know of no other instance of its occurrence in the summer, nor of any evidence of its breeding in this locality. This bird had probably been crippled during its migration.

Merganser—*Mergus americanus*. A rare winter visitant and rather uncommon migrant, although it was fairly common during the fall migration of 1892 and spring of 1893. Very few were noted in the fall of 1893.

Red-breasted Merganser—*Mergus serrator*. A common winter visitant.

Hooded Merganser—*Lophodytes cucullatus*. A rare resident.

Mallard—*Anas platyrhynchos*. An abundant winter visitant. Occasionally one or two may be found in the summer, which are probably cripples of the spring shooting. There is no indication that it breeds.

Black Duck—*Anas rubripes*. A winter visitant, and not very common. Between the 18th and 26th of February, 1887, a great flight of

these birds was witnessed, when for a few days they outnumbered all other ducks combined.

Gadwall—*Chaulelasmus streperus*. It is usually a rare migrant, but it was rather common in the fall of 1892 and the spring of 1893, a few being seen in the intervening winter.

Baldpate—*Mareca americana*. A few were noted in the fall of 1892 and the spring of 1893.

Green-winged Teal — *Nettion carolinensis*. A common migrant and less common winter visitant, disappearing altogether in very severe weather.

Blue-winged Teal—*Querquedula discors*. A common migrant and a fairly common winter habitant, except during unusually cold weather.

Cinnamon Teal—*Querquedula cyanoptera*. One was seen in the market at Hickman in December, 1892, with various other ducks which had been shot on or near Reelfoot Lake.

Shoveller—*Spatula clypeata*. A rare migrant.

American Pintail—*Dafila acuta tzitzihoa*. A common migrant, a few usually remaining through the winter.

Wood Duck—*Aix sponsa*. A common resident.

Redhead—*Marila americana*. A rare migrant.

Canvas-back—*Marila valisineria*. A rare migrant and very rare winter visitant.

Scaup Duck—*Marila marila*. Noted as a common transient up to 1889: a rather rare migrant, 1892-3.

Lesser Scaup Duck—*Marila affinis*. A common migrant and fairly common winter habitant.

Ring-necked Duck—*Marila collaris*. A fairly common migrant.

American Golden-eye—*Glaucionetta clangula americana*. A rare migrant.

Barrow's Golden-eye—*Glaucionetta islandica*. A very rare and irregular straggler, appearing only in severe and stormy weather.

Buffle-head—*Charitonetta albeola*. A not uncommon migrant.

Ruddy Duck—*Erismatura jamaicensis*. A rare migrant.

Snow Goose—*Chen hyperboreus hyperboreus*. A rare and irregular migrant.

White-fronted Goose—*Anser albifrons gambeli*. A rare and irregular migrant.

Canada Goose—*Branta canadensis canadensis*. A common migrant and winter habitant; rare summer habitant. It breeds at Reelfoot Lake. (See the *Auk*, Vol. III, 1886, page 481).

Hutchin's Goose—*Branta canadensis hutchinsi*. A rare migrant; more likely to occur in the fall than in the spring.

Brant — *Branta bernicla glaucogastra*. A migrant. Irregular rather than uncommon. Like the preceding species this one is more frequently seen in the fall, but may appear in either migration, or at any time in the winter; and it is fairly common, as a rule, when present. Whenever there is a big flight of Canada Geese, Brant are almost sure to be found.

Whistling Swan—*Cygnus columbianus*.

Trumpeter Swan—*Cygnus buccinator*. In my earlier list (1889) two "swans" were noted as having been seen in November or December, 1885, species not determined. In 1892-3 both species were positively identified and may now be included in this list as rare migrants.

Wood Ibis—*Mycteria americana*. It is seen nearly every year late in July, in August, or early in September. It is common when present at all.

Bittern—*Botaurus lentiginosus*. A rare migrant. Possibly a rare summer habitant, since it has been seen as late as May 12 and as early as the latter part of August.

Least Bittern—*Ixobrychus exilis*. A rare summer habitant, more common during the migration periods.

Great Blue Heron—*Ardea herodias herodias*. "Quite a common summer resident." Less common, in fact almost rare, in 1892; rare in 1893.

Egret—*Casmerodius egretta*. "In the fall of 1885 I was shown the long tail feathers of one said to have been killed near Hickman." No other record.

Snowy Egret—*Egretta candidissima candidissima*. "Summer resident, growing commoner every year." It did not continue to do so; rare in 1892-3.

Little Blue Heron—*Florida caerulea*. A fairly common summer habitant.

Green Heron—*Butorides virescens virescens*. "Rare. A dead one seen September 1, 1887." This was an error, the printer's, proof-reader's, or mine; it is of little consequence how the error occurred now that it is corrected. The quoted notation belonged to the Yellow-

crowned Night Heron. The Green Heron is a common summer habitant.

Black-crowned Night Heron—*Nycticorax nycticorax naevius*. A rare summer habitant.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron—*Nyctanassa violacea*. See notation under Green Heron.

Whooping Crane—*Grus americana*. One was seen on August 26, 1886, on Island No. 6.

Sandhill Crane—*Grus mexicana*. A rare migrant.

King Rail—*Rallus elegans*. A rare summer habitant and rather common migrant.

Virginia Rail—*Rallus virginianus*. A common migrant.

Sora—*Porzana carolina*. A common migrant.

Yellow Rail—*Coturnicops noveboracensis*. A rare and irregular migrant.

Purple Gallinule—*Ionornis martinicus*. A rare migrant.

Florida Gallinule—*Gallinula chloropus cachinnans*. A common summer habitant.

Coot—*Fulica americana*. A common summer habitant; a few remain through the winter.

Wilson's Phalarope—*Steganopus tricolor*. "Common migrant." Rare in 1982-3.

Woodcock—*Rubicola minor*. A rare migrant.

Wilson's Snipe—*Gallinago delicata*. A rare migrant. In 1886 it was seen as early as August 2.

Long-billed Dowitcher—*Limnodromus griseus scolopaceus*. A casual straggler.

Pectoral Sandpiper—*Pisobia maculata*. A common migrant.

Least Sandpiper—*Pisobia minutilla*. A rather common migrant.

Semipalmated Sandpiper—*Ereunetes pusillus*. A rare migrant.

Greater Yellow-legs—*Totanus melanoleucus*. A rare migrant.

Yellow-legs—*Totanus flavipes*. A rare migrant, but more numerous than the preceding species.

Solitary Sandpiper—*Tringa solitaria solitaria*. A common migrant.

Willet—*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus semipalmatus*. Two specimens were seen, one of which was secured, on the Kentucky bank of

the Mississippi River opposite Island No. 8 on November 17, 1887.

Upland Plover—*Bartramia longicauda*. A rare migrant, slightly more in evidence in the fall than in the spring.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper—*Tryngites subruficollis*. A casual migrant.

Spotted Sandpiper—*Actitis macularia*. A common migrant, with a few remaining through the summer.

Long-billed Curlew—*Numenius americanus*. A rare migrant.

Eskimo Curlew—*Numenius borealis*. A very rare migrant.

American Black-bellied Plover—*Squatarola squatarola cynosurae*. A rare migrant.

Golden Plover—*Pluvialis dominica dominica*. A fairly common migrant.

Kildeer—*Oxyechus vociferus*. A common resident.

Semipalmated Plover—*Charadrius semipalmatus*. A common migrant.

Piping Plover—*Charadrius melodus*. A fairly common migrant.

Bob-white—*Colinus virginianus virginianus*. A common resident.

Wild Turkey—*Meleagris gallopavo silvestris*. A common resident. It may not be out of place to record that a male of this species weighing twenty-one pounds was offered for sale in Hickman, April 15, 1887.

Passenger Pigeon—*Ectopistes migratorius*. "Migrant; growing rarer yearly." It was very rare in 1892. On October 29, 1893, I saw two, evidently a pair, near the Sulphur Spring, about a mile south of Hickman. They were very tame, and I walked to within fifteen feet of the small tree in which they were perched, not over eight feet from the ground. These were the last Passenger Pigeons I ever saw and, as far as I can ascertain, were the last seen in Kentucky.

[After this was written I saw in the daily press that Col. Lucien Beckner, of Winchester, Kentucky, had addressed a meeting of the Kentucky Academy of Science, of which he is president, on "The Last Wild Pigeon in Kentucky". I wrote to Col. Beckner concerning the matter and received a very interesting reply from which I quote the following:

"My brother, Mr. Seth S. Beckner, of this city (Winchester), while hunting doves about five miles southwest of Winchester, Clark County, killed a wild pigeon in November, 1897. The exact date is lost, but the bird was brought to town and picked and cooked and presented to

my wife who was just recovering from child-bed sickness, a fact that fixes the date with considerable accuracy. My brother has never ceased to wonder why he was so stupid as to destroy the remains, for we all realized at that time that it was a rare event to see a wild pigeon, and that perhaps that was the last one we would ever see. However, it was done.

"His story of the killing of it is that he was waiting under a tree in a large hemp field and this bird came and alighted in the top by itself and he shot it. He thinks that had it alighted with the doves he would have noticed its greater size; but as it was, he did not realize that it was not a dove until his setter retrieved it and then for a few moments he did not realize its difference from the doves until he noticed that it was a bigger handful than usual, and therefore took a good look, when its difference became at once manifest, and he slowly realized what it was.

"He brought it in and showed it to us all, but none of us had the least idea that he was going to serve it as he did, or there would have been remonstrances that would have stopped him. His only idea was that his sister-in-law was sick, he would give her something nice, and let it be a surprise. The result is that my wife often boasts that she ate the last wild pigeon in America. Perhaps she did.

"A letter from Col. James Maret to the *Lexington Herald* a few years ago says that probably the last wild pigeons were killed on the waters of Slate Creek, in Montgomery County, by J. H. Kemper in 1892, when he was hunting doves, and that he killed two the following year in the same way and in the same neighborhood. An article appeared in the *Courier-Journal* (Louisville, Kentucky) on February 24, this year (1924), which states that C. B. Fisher, a farmer on the Greenwood Road, twelve miles south of Louisville, had seen a flock of about 300 of them alight in front of his home. This was on the Wednesday preceding. He says that he got within twenty-five feet of them. This does not sound like doves, which are too much shot at to permit such familiarity, and besides do not fly in such flocks at that time of the year: but it is next to impossible to believe they were pigeons. However, I have long since ceased to doubt the impossible. The story is worth investigation. I have always had a hope that somewhere in the north woods there has been saved a remnant, and in my wanderings in the wilder parts of the eastern United States have carefully inquired when in a beech forest country, or where I thought they would find food, thinking that some such story as that of my brother might be

hidden in the mind of one who did not know its interest, but without success.”]

Mourning Dove—*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*. A common resident.

Turkey Vulture—*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*. A common resident.

Black Vulture—*Coragyps urubu urubu*. “Rare and irregular. Occurs at any time of the year.” Now more common, though still rare in comparison with the preceding species, and evidently resident, 1892-3.

Swallow-tailed Kite—*Elanoides forficatus*. A rare summer visitant. There is no evidence that it breeds here, and it is usually not seen before the last of July or first of August.

Mississippi Kite—*Ictinia mississippiensis*. Its status is the same as the preceding species. Never seen earlier than July 15.

Marsh Hawk—*Circus hudsonius*. A rather uncommon migrant.

Sharp-shinned Hawk—*Accipiter velox*. A rather common resident.

Cooper’s Hawk—*Accipiter cooperi*. A common resident.

Goshawk—*Astur atricapillus atricapillus*. A rare and irregular winter visitant.

Red-tailed Hawk—*Buteo borealis borealis*. A common resident.

Red-shouldered Hawk—*Buteo lineatus lineatus*. “Rare migrant.” A rare resident in 1892-3.

Swainson’s Hawk—*Buteo swainsoni*. “Rare resident.” This was an error. It should have been noted as a very rare and irregular visitant.

Broad-winged Hawk—*Buteo latissimus*. A rare summer habitant.

Rough-legged Hawk—*Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis*. A very rare and irregular winter straggler.

Bald Eagle—*Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus*. During the time covered by these notes there were, on the average, half a dozen pairs of these birds resident and breeding in Fulton County. All of them were located near Island No. 8—a pair nested on the island once or in “The Scatters”.

Duck Hawk—*Falco peregrinus anatum*. A rare winter visitant.

Pigeon Hawk—*Falco columbarius columbarius*. A rare winter habitant.

Sparrow Hawk—*Cerchneis sparveria sparveria*. A common resident.

Barn Owl—*Tyto alba pratincola*. "Said by Prof. B. C. Caldwell to occur. I have never seen it." Now included as a rare resident on my own observation.

Long-eared Owl—*Asio wilsonianus*. A rare winter habitant.

Short-eared Owl—*Asio flammeus*. A rare winter habitant.

Barred Owl—*Strix varia varia*. A common resident.

Screech Owl—*Otus asio asio*. A common resident.

Great Horned Owl—*Bubo virginianus virginianus*. A rather rare resident.

Snowy Owl—*Nyctea nyctea*. A very rare winter straggler.

Carolina Paroquet—*Conuropsis carolinensis*. Formerly common according to all reports; occasional visitants are said to have been seen up to 1878.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—*Coccyzus americanus americanus*. A common summer resident.

Black-billed Cuckoo—*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*. "Very rare. One killed July 16, 1886." A rare migrant in spring of 1890; a rare migrant and possible summer habitant in 1892-3.

Belted Kingfisher—*Ceryle alcyon alcyon*. A common summer habitant, a few remaining through the winter.

Ivory-billed Woodpecker—*Campephilus principalis*. "Said to have been common formerly. Several reported as having been seen five or six years ago." In the light of later knowledge and experience I doubt exceedingly the presence of several or even one so recently. I also doubt if this species was ever "common" here. There is no doubt, however, of the former existence of the ivory-bill in this section, probably as late as 1872-4, and it is retained in the list on this basis.

Hairy Woodpecker—*Dryobates villosus villosus*. A rare resident.

Southern Hairy Woodpecker—*Dryobates villosus auduboni*. A resident; slightly more common than the preceding subspecies.

Downy Woodpecker—*Dryobates pubescens* (subsp. ?). "Common resident." This notation should probably refer to *Dryobates pubescens pubescens*, the Southern Downy Woodpecker; the separation of these subspecies had not been made at the time of the observations.

Red-cockaded Woodpecker—*Dryobates borealis*. A very rare and casual straggler.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—*Sphyrapicus varius varius*. "A not common resident." Its presence during the summer is very doubtful, and there is no evidence that it breeds.

Pileated Woodpecker—*Phloeotomus pileatus pileatus*. A fairly common resident.

Red-headed Woodpecker—*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*. "Common except in the depth of winter, when they all leave for three or four weeks." They probably remained in sheltered places where they were not seen. They were noted all through the winter of 1892-3.

Red-bellied Woodpecker—*Centurus carolinus*. A common resident.

Flicker—*Colaptes auratus auratus*. A common resident.

Chuck-will's-widow—*Antrostomus carolinensis*. A rare summer habitant.

Whip-poor-will—*Antrostomus vociferus vociferus*. A rare summer habitant; slightly more numerous than the preceding species.

Nighthawk—*Chordeiles virginianus virginianus*. "Common transient." A common migrant, and rather rare summer habitant in 1892-3.

Chimney Swift—*Chaetura pelagica*. A common summer habitant.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird—*Archilochus colubris*. A common summer habitant.

Kingbird—*Tyrannus tyrannus*. A common summer habitant.

Crested Flycatcher—*Myiarchus crinitus*. A common summer habitant.

Phoebe—*Sayornis phoebe*. A common summer habitant.

Olive-sided Flycatcher—*Nuttallornis borealis*. A rare migrant.

Wood Pewee—*Myiochanes virens*. "Common migrant. A few remain through the summer." It was a common summer habitant, 1892-3.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher—*Empidonax flaviventris*. A rare migrant.

Acadian Flycatcher—*Empidonax virescens*. A rather rare summer habitant.

Traill's Flycatcher—*Empidonax trailli trailli*. A common migrant and rare summer habitant.

Least Flycatcher—*Empidonax minimus*. A rare migrant. There is no evidence that it remains through the summer, except that one was seen on May 20, 1887.

Horned Lark—*Otocoris alpestris alpestris*. A casual winter visitant.

Prairie Horned Lark—*Otocoris alpestris praticola*. A common winter habitant.

Blue Jay—*Cyanocitta cristata cristata*. A common resident.

Raven—*Corvus corax sinuatus*. "One seen October 3, 1887." This bird was seen at fairly close range, and was under observation for several minutes. It was with or near a flock of crows, and its superior size made the identification both easy and positive.

Crow—*Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos*. A common resident.

Bobolink—*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*. A rather uncommon migrant.

Cowbird—*Molothrus ater ater*. "Said by several persons to have been common eight or ten years ago. Cannot be found now." A few were seen in April, 1890; it was rare during the summer of 1892 and the spring and summer of 1893, but became fairly common during the fall of the latter year.

Red-winged Blackbird—*Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus*. A common resident. Abundant in migration.

Meadowlark—*Sturnella magna magna*. A common resident.

Orchard Oriole—*Icterus spurius*. "Rare migrant." A fairly common migrant, and rare summer habitant in 1892-3.

Baltimore Oriole—*Icterus galbula*. A common summer resident.

Rusty Blackbird—*Euphagus carolinus*. A common winter habitant.

Purple Grackle—*Quiscalus quiscula quiscula*. "Resident, common, especially in winter."

Bronzed Grackle—*Quiscalus quiscula aeneus*. "Resident. Our commonest blackbird. Abundant during the winter. Both this and the last subspecies breed here, *aeneus* far outnumbering *quiscula*. They never breed together, each keeping strictly to itself in the breeding season." In the spring of 1890 the Purple Grackles were very scarce, and there was no evidence that they were breeding. In 1892 they were present and breeding, but in reduced numbers. In 1893 they were present and breeding in about the same numerical ratio to the Bronzed Grackle as formerly.

Evening Grosbeak—*Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina*. Quite common in March, 1887. (See the *Auk*, Vol. IV, 1887, page 257).

[To be continued]